

Message Text

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72

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 /054 W

----- 034290

R 131515Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2728

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG US MIL

SUBJECT: ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON MIDDLE EAST
REPORT

FROM MAESTRONE

1. AL AHAM AND AL AKHBAR FRONT PAGED AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE
GAZETTE PROMINENTLY CARRIED ARTICLE AND EDITORIAL ON HOUSE ARMED
SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON MIDDLE EAST REPORT SUGGESTING
"CAUTIOUS APPROACH TO US AID TO ISRAEL." ARTICLE WITH WASHINGTON
DATELINE INDICATED SUBCOMMITTEE PREPARED 24-PAGE REPORT AFTER
VISIT TO REGION, WHICH APPEARED DESIGNED TO BLUNT
IMAGE OF STRONG CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL.

2. REPORT IS DESCRIBED AS CALLING FOR A BALANCED POLICY IN
MIDDLE EAST, ARTICLES NOTE THAT IT ALSO "RECOMMENDS TO CONGRESS
THAT IN VIEW OF PRESENT STRENGTH OF ISRAELI FORCES AND IN VIEW OF
EFFECT ON ISRAELI ECONOMY AND MILITARIONS ON US AT TIME OF
IMPENDING LARGE-SCALE BUDGET DEFICITS, ANY ISRAELI REQUEST BE SCRUT-
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INIZED CAREFULLY AND ANY JUDGMENT HE MADE ON ANITEM-BY-ITEM BASIS.

REPORT ALSO IS CITED AS SAYING THAT IF PROVISION OF SOME ITEMS CAN BE DELAYED, IT WOULD BE ECONOMICALLY BENEFICIAL TO BOTH NATIONS IN A YEAR WHEN BOTH FACE SEVERE BUDGETARY RESTRAINTS.

COMMENT: EGYPTIANS ALREADY CONSCIOUS OF IMPACT ON CONGRESS OF VISITS BY CODELS WILL BE IMPRESSED BY RESULT OF CODEL PRICE'S VISIT AND READINESS OF CODEL TO PUT ITS FINDINGS INTO A PUBLIC REPORT. EHILE CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM STILL EXISTS RE READINESS OF CONGRESS TO BE EVENHANDED, VALUE OF CANDID EXCHANGES WITH VISITING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS IS BROUGHT HOME TO EGYPTIANS BY THIS REPORT.IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT WHILE GAZETTE VERSION OF ARTICLE CARRIED STATEMENT "SUBCOMMITTEE RECOGNIZES THAT ONE OF PERSUASIVE POINTS IN BEHALF OF AID TO ISRAEL, AS OUTLINED ELOQUENTLY BY PRIME MINISTER RABIN. IS THAT STRONG ISRAEL WILL CONVINCE ARAB NATIONS THAT WAR IS NOT AN OPTION...", THIS SECTION IS DELETED FROM ARABIC DAILIES.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LEGISLATORS, COMMITTEES, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAIRO02714
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750088-1055
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750355/aaaabxnf.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <02 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON MIDDLE EAST REPORT
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, EG, US, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006